



General Assembly

January Session, 2001

Raised Bill No. 6644

LCO No. 3546

Referred to Committee on Public Safety

Introduced by:
(PS)

***AN ACT CONCERNING A VOLUNTARY STATE PROGRAM OF
ACCREDITATION FOR CONNECTICUT POLICE AGENCIES.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 7-294d of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:

3 (a) The Police Officer Standards and Training Council shall have the
4 following powers:

5 (1) To develop and periodically update and revise a comprehensive
6 municipal police training plan;

7 (2) To approve, or revoke the approval of, any police training school
8 and to issue certification to such schools and to revoke such
9 certification;

10 (3) To set the minimum courses of study and attendance required
11 and the equipment and facilities to be required of approved police
12 training schools;

13 (4) To set the minimum qualifications for law enforcement

14 instructors and to issue appropriate certification to such instructors;

15 (5) To require that all probationary candidates receive the hours of
16 basic training deemed necessary before being eligible for certification,
17 such basic training to be completed within one year following the
18 appointment as a probationary candidate, unless the candidate is
19 granted additional time to complete such basic training by the council;

20 (6) To require the registration of probationary candidates with the
21 academy within ten days of hiring for the purpose of scheduling
22 training;

23 (7) To issue appropriate certification to police officers who have
24 satisfactorily completed minimum basic training programs;

25 (8) To require that each police officer satisfactorily complete at least
26 forty hours of certified review training every three years in order to
27 maintain certification, unless the officer is granted additional time not
28 to exceed one year to complete such training by the council;

29 (9) To renew the certification of those police officers who have
30 satisfactorily completed review training programs;

31 (10) To establish uniform minimum educational and training
32 standards for employment as a police officer in full-time positions,
33 temporary or probationary positions and part-time or voluntary
34 positions;

35 (11) To visit and inspect police basic training schools and to inspect
36 each school at least once each year;

37 (12) To consult with and cooperate with universities, colleges and
38 institutes for the development of specialized courses of study for
39 police officers in police science and police administration;

40 (13) To consult with and cooperate with departments and agencies
41 of this state and other states and the federal government concerned

42 with police training;

43 (14) To employ an executive director and any other personnel that
44 may be necessary in the performance of its functions;

45 (15) To perform any other acts that may be necessary and
46 appropriate to carry out the functions of the council as set forth in
47 sections 7-294a to 7-294e, inclusive;

48 (16) To accept contributions, grants, gifts, donations, services or
49 other financial assistance from any governmental unit, public agency
50 or the private sector;

51 (17) To conduct any inspection and evaluation that may be
52 necessary to determine if a law enforcement unit is complying with the
53 provisions of this section;

54 (18) At the request and expense of any law enforcement unit, to
55 conduct general or specific management surveys;

56 (19) To develop objective and uniform criteria for granting any
57 waiver of regulations or procedures established by the council;

58 (20) To recruit, select and appoint candidates to the position of
59 probationary candidate, as defined in section 7-294a, and provide
60 recruit training for candidates of the Connecticut Police Corps
61 program in accordance with the Police Corps Act, 42 USC 14091 et
62 seq., as amended from time to time;

63 (21) To form an Accreditation Committee for purposes of a
64 voluntary law enforcement accreditation program.

65 Sec. 2. (NEW) (a) The Police Standards and Training Council shall
66 establish an Accreditation Committee. The committee shall consist of
67 no fewer than twelve members who shall be appointed by the council,
68 provided the members appointed to the committee shall (1) be
69 volunteers, (2) have background and experience in law enforcement

70 administration, (3) represent different areas of the state, and (4)
71 represent different size cities or towns. The members of the committee
72 shall serve without compensation but shall be entitled to actual
73 expenses involved in the performance of their duties. Employees of the
74 council shall act as staff to the committee.

75 (b) The Accreditation Committee, in consultation with state and
76 municipal law enforcement units, shall develop standards and
77 methodologies to establish a state-wide voluntary law enforcement
78 accreditation program. The council shall review such standards and
79 methodologies, and, on or before January 1, 2002, shall issue standards
80 and procedures for law enforcement units to receive accreditation. The
81 committee shall receive and review initial and renewal accreditation
82 reports from law enforcement units that choose to participate in this
83 program, and shall make recommendations for action on such reports
84 to the council. Law enforcement units that meet the standards shall
85 receive accreditation awards from the council.

Statement of Purpose:

To recognize law enforcement agencies that prioritize high standards and excellence in their work, and to encourage adoption of uniform standards and practices.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]